

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Shinya HIRAI

Group Art Unit: 2612

Serial No.: 10/067,056

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: February 4, 2002

For: SIGNAL PROCESSING APPARATUS, SIGNAL PROCESSING METHOD OF THE APPARATUS, OPERATION PROCESS PROGRAM OF THE METHOD, AND STORAGE MEDIUM STORING THE PROGRAM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop \_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 56, applicant hereby calls the attention of the Patent Office to the references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. Copy(ies) of these references ☒ are attached

☐ were filed in related application U.S. Serial No(s) \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, respectively.

☐ This document is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the application

☐ A check for the requisite fee of \$180 is enclosed.

☐ This document is being concurrently filed with the above-identified application

☐ This document is being concurrently filed with an Request for Continued Examination (RCE)

☒ This document is being filed prior to a first Office Action

☒ This document is accompanied by a Search Report/Communication cited in a corresponding PCT or foreign counterpart application.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4813.

Respectfully submitted,  
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: 12/16/04

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| <b>FORM PTO-1449</b><br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> | Attorney Docket: | Serial No.:     |
|  | 1232-4813        | 10/067,056      |
|  | Applicant:       |                 |
|  | Shinya HIRAI     |                 |
|  | Filing Date:     | Group Art Unit: |
|  | February 4, 2002 | 2612            |

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initial |    | Patent Number                           | Publication Date | Name           | Class | Sub-Class | Filing Date |
|------------------|----|---|------------------|----------------|-------|-----------|-------------|
|                  | AA | 5,552,827                               | 09/03/96         | Maenaka et al. | 348   | 266       |             |
|                  | AB | 6,295,087 corresponding to JP 10-150668 | 09/25/01         | Nohda          | 348   | 234       |             |
|                  | AC |   |                  |                |       |           |             |
|                  | AD |   |                  |                |       |           |             |
|                  | AE |   |                  |                |       |           |             |
|                  | AF |   |                  |                |       |           |             |
|                  | AG |   |                  |                |       |           |             |
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|                  | AK |   |                  |                |       |           |             |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initial |    | Patent Number                           | Publication Date | Country | Class | Sub-Class | Translation  |
|------------------|----|---|------------------|---------|-------|-----------|--|
|                  | AL | 9-84031                                 | 03/28/97         | Japan   |       |           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Abstract Only.  |
|                  | AM | 2001-320720                             | 11/16/01         | Japan   |       |           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Abstract Only   |
|                  | AN | 10-150668 corresponding to US 6,295,087 | 06/02/98         | Japan   |       |           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Abstract Only   |
|                  | AO | 11-177994                               | 07/02/99         | Japan   |       |           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Abstract Only   |
|                  | AP |   |                  |         |       |           | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Papers, etc.)**

|  |    |  |
|--|----|--|
|  | AR | European Search Report dated November 2, 2004. |
|  | AS |  |
|  | AT |  |

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Examiner  | Date Considered |
| EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609.<br>Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.<br>Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant. |                 |